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[redacted]

1. It is reported that General Manuel A. Odria, head of Peru's Military Junta, hopes to be able to turn the government over to General Armando Artola, Minister of Labor, when he resigns to seek election as constitutional president. Under this arrangement, it is thought that Minister of War General Zenon Noriega would also resign his present post, and become a candidate for vice-president. Odria hopes to be able to avoid having to leave the government in any hands other than Artola's. If forced to make another choice, he would prefer Admiral Roque Saldias, Minister of the Navy. Saldias is thought to be too ill and tired to be willing to take over even temporarily, however.

2. Saldias is now siding with Odria against Noriega, and in cabinet meetings has found more points of agreement in Odria's views than in those of Noriega. Saldias also believes that Noriega would turn against Odria if the moment seemed propitious. Saldias has tried again to resign from the cabinet because of ill health. Odria has, however, persuaded the Navy Minister to stay in office, and has told Saldias that he need perform no other function than to attend junta meetings, where he acts as a stabilizing force.

3. Odria is reported to feel that he has no serious organized legal opposition, with the possible exception of Dr. Jose Quesada. He apparently thinks that the Manuel Prado forces are placated for the present. What Odria does fear, however, is a revolutionary move to unseat him.

25X1X 4. [redacted] several high-ranking army officers disapprove of Odria's present policies. Among those cited are Generals Jose Marin, Oscar Torres, Federico Hurtado, and Armando Revoredo. It is thought that such individuals might become impatient enough to support either Noriega or Lt. Col. Alejandro Izaguirre in a revolutionary move. Izaguirre has been known in the past as a follower of Lt. Col. Alfonso Llosa.

25X1X 5. [redacted] "spontaneous" demonstration is being prepared, to take place when Odria does resign, to demonstrate popular support for the President's candidacy.

6. The Communist Party of Peru (PCP) will wait to see how Odria's campaign prospers and what other presidential candidates enter the race before making a decision

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on its course of action and attitude toward the elections. The political commission believes that if General Noriega should be left in power, he may lead a coup d'etat. The political commission believes that Noriega is fully as influential in the armed forces as Odria is, and furthermore, that he is on very good terms with General Federico Hurtado.

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